

12/07/06

teckcominco

**PROGRESS REPORT NO. 5**

**TO:** Kevin Rochlin – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 10  
(via Email)  
Sally Thomas – EPA, Region 10 (via Email)  
Monica Tonel – EPA, Region 10 (via Email)

**FROM:** Marko Adzic – Teck Cominco American Incorporated (TCAI)

**CC:** David Godlewski – TCAI (via Email)  
Bruce Duncan – EPA, Region 10 (via Email)  
David Charters – EPA, Headquarters (via Email)

**DATE:** December 7, 2006

**RE:** Upper Columbia River (UCR) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study  
(RI/FS) - Progress Report No. 5: Month Ending November 2006

Pursuant to Paragraph 39 of the June 2, 2006 Settlement Agreement (Agreement), the following is intended to provide a summary of the activities completed during the past month in compliance with the aforementioned Agreement. In addition, it is also intended to provide a summary of proposed activities to be carried out within the coming months.

**Table 1. Upper Columbia River Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Summary of On-Going and Planned Activities**

Task No.	Task Description	Status	Issues	Estimated Completion Date <sup>1</sup>
1.	2005 Field Data Transfer	Complete	None to report at this time	<u>July 31, 2006</u>
2.	Technical Memorandum <sup>2</sup>	Complete	None to report at this time	<u>October 27, 2006</u>
3.	Draft RI/FS Work Plan	On-going	None to report at this time	December 28, 2006
4.	Sampling and Analysis Plan(s)	On-going	None to report at this time	February 26, 2007
5.	Health and Safety Plan	On-going	None to report at this time	February 26, 2007
6.	Cultural Resources Coordination Plan	On-going	None to report at this time	February 26, 2007

Notes: 1. Dates that have been underlined represent the actual day that the respective deliverable was submitted to EPA as per Paragraph 80 of the Agreement.

2. As outlined within the Agreement the technical memorandum outlines and described the Risk-Based Remedial Objectives for the Ecological Risk Assessment. Remedial objectives for the protection of human health will be prepared by EPA and submitted under separate cover at a later date.

We wish to confirm that efforts to complete the draft RI/FS work plan are on-going. Presently, the TCAI technical team is in the final stages of editing the document. In addition and in parallel with finalizing the draft work plan, a Phase I screening level risk assessment (SLRA) for ecological receptors is being conducted and will be submitted under separate cover. To the extent

Teck Cominco American Incorporated  
PO Box 3087, Spokane, WA 99220  
Telephone: (509) 747-6111 ■ Facsimile: (509) 922-8767

USEPA SF



1244503

permitted by data collected to date, the SLRA will address potential risks to aquatic life, aquatic dependent wildlife and terrestrial plant and wildlife. In addition it will also be used to guide future sampling programs. It is anticipated that a draft copy of the SLRA will be made available for review and comment in April 2007.

As outlined within Table 1 above, although only one sampling and analysis plan (SAP) is required by the 26<sup>th</sup> of February 2007, TCAI anticipates to develop, submit and implement several field sampling programs during 2007. Each program will be outlined in detail within respective SAPs and quality assurance project plans, and submitted under separate cover at various times throughout the coming year. These include but are not necessarily limited to:

- A comprehensive surface water sampling program,
- A targeted beach sampling program,
- An aquatic community biological survey program,
- A targeted fish tissue sampling program, and
- A targeted hydrodynamic (i.e., fate and transport) data collection program.

It is anticipated that these programs will be designed and staged to occur at times that facilitate maximum data collection efforts. We wish to confirm that as additional details regarding scheduling and draft document submittal dates are developed they will be provided for your review and information.

TCAI has been contacted by the National Parks Service (NPS) regarding potential participation in 2007 vegetation mapping studies within the UCR. This information in combination with recent light detection and ranging (LiDAR) data will be extremely useful for RI/FS activities. As such, we wish to confirm that TCAI is pursuing this matter and trusts that in addition to the aforementioned field programs, efforts in vegetation mapping will also be undertaken in 2007.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 509-892-2585.